

We study the effects of a series of **earthquakes** that struck Mexico in September 2017 on gendered violence. **Domestic violence** increased by 17%, **sexual abuse** rose by 11%, and **rape** climbed by 12%. What are the mechanisms?

Earthquakes and Crimes Against Women

Adan Silverio-Murillo, Jose Roberto Balmori De la Miyar, and Fernanda Márquez-Padilla

1 Motivation

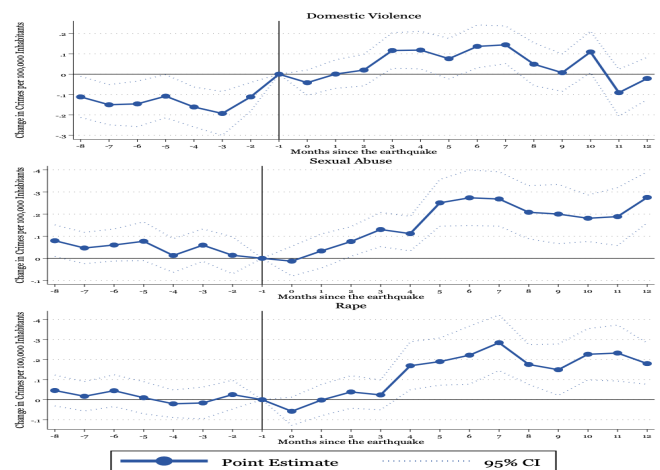
- **Absence of capable guardians** may increase opportunities of crimes targeting women (Cohen and Felson, 1979).
- **Increase of social cooperation** may decrease the likelihood of crimes against women (Fritz, 1996).

2 Methods

- **Data:** National Public Security System (municipality-level).
- **Period:** Jan 2017 to Sept 2018.
- **Methodology:** Event-Study.



3 Results



4 Mechanisms

	Domestic Violence	Sexual Abuse	Rape
Earthquakes	17% Δ	11% Δ	12% Δ
Mechanisms			
Altruistic behavior			
Absence of capable guardians		✓	✓
Motivated offenders (gangs on the streets)		✓	✓
Lower socioeconomic status			
Labor market outcomes			
Highway disruption and food	✓		



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